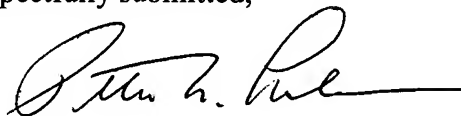


REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending. The claims have been amended to be in correct form for U.S. practice.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance. An early action indication of such is earnestly solicited. However, if there are any issues that remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite a resolution to such issues. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees or credit any overpayment of fees in connection with this communication to Deposit Account 19-4375.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter N. Lalos", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter N. Lalos
Reg. No. 19,789
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Date: September 19, 2006